

The Papal Funeral and Election.

There is no reason to suppose that what may be termed the established post-mortem programme will be changed in the present case. As soon as the death of the Pope has been formally certified and proclaimed the bells of all the churches in Rome will toll, and the official known as the Cardinal Camerlengo will assume authority as a sort of Papal Regent. Twenty-four hours after death the body will be embalmed, carried to the Sistine Chapel and robed. The remains lie in state there three days, when they will be removed to the Chapter's Chapel and inclosed in three coffins securely sealed, and then placed under the dome of St. Peter's. The funeral ceremonies continue nine days, and during the last three are exceedingly imposing. At their conclusion the triple coffin is deposited in a small vault in the wall of the great Basilica some distance above the floor, where it is kept a year, and then transferred to the spot selected for final burial. This spot is usually chosen by the Pope himself, and Pius IX. will take his long repose in front of the high altar of St. Maria Maggiore. His tomb, finished several years ago, is a superb affair, radiant with many-colored marbles and exquisite mosaics—a tomb fit for a king.

On the third day after the Pope's death the Cardinals meet and the ten congregations assemble. The fourth day the Conclave assemblies in the Pauline Chapel, the doors of which are forthwith locked and guarded. None of the members are permitted to leave or communicate with the outer world until their work is accomplished. A two-thirds vote is required for a choice, and there are four modes: "Scrutiny," "access," "compromise," and "inspiration." No voting by proxy is allowed. Twice each day, as long as the conclave lasts, each Cardinal present writes his own name, and the name of the person for whom he votes, on a slip of paper; then advances to the altar, kneels and repeats a prayer, and deposits the ballot in a consecrated chalice, repeating another prayer as he leaves the altar. When all have voted a short pause intervenes, and then the ballots are taken from the chalice by officers appointed for the purpose. They are counted and compared with the number of Cardinals present. If the requisite two-thirds is obtained, the fortunate candidate is declared duly elected. If not, the slips of paper are at once burned, and the little cloud of smoke escaping through a small flue tells the anxious crowd outside that no election has occurred. Then the same process is repeated. This is the "scrutiny." If votes be added to those already given to one candidate, so as to make the required two-thirds, it is called "access." If the friends of two closely matched candidates unite on a third, it is called "compromise." If by a sudden movement in the College, whether impromptu or prearranged, a name is proposed and carried by acclamation, it is called "inspiration." Pius IX. was elected in this way. Formerly it was understood, though never, we believe, laid down in canon law, that the three great Catholic powers, France, Austria and Spain, had the right to vote upon the election of one candidate, which was exercised through one of their Cardinals in the conclave. This right has lately been the subject of discussion in the Vatican councils, and has doubtless been annulled. At any rate it may be considered certain that the choice of the Sacred College at the coming election will be Pope, with or without the approval of the three powers.

There are, we think, 62 cardinals now living—the full number being 70—of whom 30 are Italians and 26 born beyond the frontiers of Italy. That an Italian will be chosen is almost certain. The last German Pope was Stephen X., elected in 1056. The last French Pope was Gregory XI., elected in 1370. The last and only English Pope was Adrian IV., elected in 1154. The last and only Portuguese Pope was XXI., elected in 1276. The last Greek Pope was Alexander V., elected in 1409. The last Spanish Pope was Alexander VI., elected in 1492. The last and only Dutch Pope was Adrian VI., elected in 1522. Since Adrian there have been 37 Popes, all Italians. Pius IX., the 37th is the 257th in the official list of Popes. Italy having monopolized the Papacy for more than 350 years, is not likely to abandon her claims now; and her majority in the conclave can easily enforce them. Assuming that an Italian will be the next Pope, the following have been named as the most prominent candidates: Morichini, Valletta, Simeoni, Franchi

and Pecci. Morichini is 72, and rather liberal than otherwise. The others were at one time all ranked with the Moderates, but since Simeoni was made Cardinal Secretary of State, and Pecci Cardinal Camerlengo, they have been intensely conservative. There is a saying in Rome that "Whoever goes into the Conclave Pope will come out Cardinal"—meaning that the candidate which seemingly has the best chance at the outset is generally beaten. The proverb is likely to be verified in the present instance. Meanwhile we may remark that the Conclave assemblies at a fortunate time. Were Europe undisturbed by wars and rumors of wars it is quite possible that an effort might be made by France, Austria or Germany to dictate the choice of the Sacred College, or interfere in some way with its deliberations. But there is no danger of such interference now. When all eyes are turned to the city of Constantinople, transactions in the city of Rome, however interesting and important, will pass unnoticed and almost uncared for. In the shadow of Europe's drawn sword the great election of the church will be held in peace.—*St. Louis Republican.*

Photographic and Phonographic Possibilities.

Some time ago the *Scientific American* suggested that by the use of stereoscopic photographs and the phonograph an audience might be apparently addressed by a person who was not present among them. Mr. Wordsworth Donisthorpe, in a communication to *Nature*, says:

"Ingenious as this suggested combination is, I believe I am in a position to cap it. By combining the phonograph with kinesiograph I will undertake not only to produce a talking picture of Mr. Gladstone which, with motionless lips and unchanged expression, shall positively recite his latest anti-Turkish speech in his own voice and tone. Not only this, but the life-size photograph itself shall move and gesticulate precisely as he did when making the speech, the words and gestures corresponding as in real life. The mode in which I effect this is described in the accompanying provisional specification, which may be briefly summed up thus: Instantaneous photographs of bodies or groups of bodies in motion are taken at equal short intervals—say quarter or half seconds—the exposure of the plate occupying not more than an eighth of a second. After fixing, the prints from these plates are taken one below another on a long strip or ribbon of paper. The strip is wound from one cylinder to another so as to cause the several photographs to pass before the eye successively at the same intervals of time as those at which they were taken. Each picture as it passes the eye is instantaneously lighted up by an electric spark. Thus the picture is made to appear stationary while the people or things in it appear to move as in nature. I need not enter more into detail beyond saying that if the intervals between the presentation of the successive pictures are found to be too short, the gaps can be filled up by duplicates or triplicates of each succeeding print. This will not perceptibly alter the general effect. I think it will be admitted that by this means a drama acted by daylight or magnesium light may be recorded and reacted on the screen or sheet of a magic lantern, and with the assistance of the phonograph the dialogues may be repeated in the very voices of the actors. When this is actually accomplished the photography of colors will alone be wanting to render the representation absolutely complete, and for this we shall not, I trust, have long to wait."

The Opium Habit.

Opium-eating is the live issue in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. A local paper has been investigating, and reports that the habit is frightfully prevalent, inasmuch that the drug-stores of Staunton, a place of 10,000 inhabitants, retail about 100 pounds a week, many of their best customers being young ladies of "the first families," while storekeepers in the country find their trade in the drug so increased of late that they are now purchasing of wholesale houses at the North. The excitement aroused by the exposure has been fanned by the rather tragic death of a Harrisonburg woman, who had sent two horses to be sold, in order to raise money to buy morphine, and was so overcome when she saw the man returning without having made the trade, that she fell to the floor and died in a few hours. A public meeting was held at Staunton the other day to organize public sentiment against the vice, and a petition to the Legislature is being numerously signed asking for a heavy tax on opium. The introduction of the bell-punch, which has raised the price of "drinks," is held to be partly responsible for the spread of the evil.

HERE AND THERE.

A WOMAN in Fairfield, Me., has a growth of natural hair, eight feet and one inch long, and has refused, it is said, \$2,000 for it.

It is stated that a portion of the cloisters of Canterbury Cathedral is roofed with zinc, which after 33 years' exposure to the weather has been pronounced by the architect to be in good condition.

A WRITER on the war credits Gen. Lee with the assertion that "If I had been Stonewall Jackson at Gettysburg I should have won that battle, and if I had won it I should have established the independence of the South."

LOUIS HENDERSON, a jealous young man, of Pottsville, Pa., threw vitriol over his sweetheart because she went to the theater with another party. Her clothing was badly burned, but she was not injured.

A YEAR ago a school-boy in Cayuga County, New York, carelessly broke a pane of glass valued at 10 cents. Three trials of a suit have resulted, the last decision reversing the other two and giving a judgment of \$93.

In opening a bed of marl at Tarboro S. C., recently, a stream was found about eight feet below the surface, in which was an Indian canoe containing the skeleton of a man, with the remnant of a paddle in the hand.

THE families interested in a recent St. Louis wedding were of mixed and pertinacious religious beliefs. As a compromise, the ceremony was performed three times, one each by a Baptist, a Catholic and an Episcopal clergyman.

THERE is likely to be a contest over Brigham Young's will. One of the chief Mormons offers to show how the prophet took from the Church \$2,500,000, one of which was when he charged in a lump \$50,000 a year for 18 years' services as prophet, seer and revelator.

A LONDON advertisement: "A gentleman of high birth having run through all his money is reduced to extreme inconveniences. He has never worked and doesn't know how. Moreover he does not like it. He will feel obliged to any lady or gentleman who will undertake to support him."

QUITE a romantic event took place at Waxahatchie, Tex., the other day in the marriage of Nicholas Sims, a wealthy farmer 70 years old, to a Mrs. Dunlap, 60 years of age. They had been plighted lovers in their Tennessee home 40 years ago, but separated, and Sims has been married once and his bride twice in the interval.

THE latest wrinkle in advertising is an English institution—"The Continental Advertising Refreshment Plate Company." The dishes, emblazoned with advertisements, are to be extensively distributed among the European hotels and restaurants, and the average cost to advertisers will be about 4 cents per plate for each advertisement.

THERE is nothing like presence of mind. A well known surgeon was performing a difficult operation at one of the London hospitals the other day, when the unfortunate patient suddenly died. After a short interval, said the Doctor to the assembled students: "I will now show you, gentlemen, how I should have completed the operation had the patient not succumbed."

THE Staunton (Va.) *Vindicator*, in an article on the opium habit, says: One physician tells us of a case in which a lady, a confirmed opium-eater, sent two horses to a neighboring city to sell, the proceeds of one to be invested in morphine. By some difference in price the sale miscarried, and in two or three days the man returned. When she saw him coming down the road leading both horses she fell to the floor in an agony of disappointment and died in a few hours.

THE sudden disappearance in Scotland of Dr. Richard A. Robertson, of Titusville, Pa., is exciting the attention of the detectives, and there are many indications of foul play. About a year ago he met a stranger in New York, who made him believe that a legacy of \$48,500 was waiting for him in Ireland. He hastened over to Glasgow, and fell in with some pretended solicitors, to whom he paid \$2,500 or \$3,000 commission for documents which were to put him in possession of the property. He then returned home, and last month sailed again for Scotland to draw the money, but since his arrival there has been no trace of his whereabouts. When he left home he took with him a considerable amount of money and jewelry.

THERE is a common impression that green wall-papers only are poisonous. Mr. Seebold, of Manchester, England, has analyzed not less than 60 or 70 kinds of paper for covering walls, and he found that 10 only were harmless, although the colors were not green, but pink, blue, red, brown, etc. The cause of the illness of children and delicate

persons, which in many cases perplexes skilled physicians, may be the poisonous mineral contained in the innocent-looking wall-paper of bed-rooms.

A POOR woman lay very ill in her scantily furnished home in Sheffield, England. The doctor was sent for and came. He at once saw that hers was a very grave case, and that she had, as he thought, little chance of recovery even if she could get the nourishment her illness required. As he was about to leave, the question was put, "When should we send for you again, Doctor?" "Well," was the reply, as he looked at the poor woman and then at her wretched surroundings, "I don't think you need send for me again. She can not possibly get better; and to save you further trouble, I'll just write you out a certificate for her burial." And he did. After the doctor departed the woman got better rapidly. She has now completely recovered, and goes about carrying her burial certificate with her. At least, so says the *Sheffield Telegraph*.

A LARGE number of the so-called Havana cigars which arrive in England are shipped from German ports. A higher price is obtainable for dark than for light-colored cigars, the demand for the former being about three times as large as for the latter. Owing in a great measure to the partial failure of the tobacco crops of late years, light-colored tobacco is much more common than dark. In order, therefore, to render the cigars made of light-colored tobacco salable at a higher price, and also to improve the appearance of old and faded cigars, various infusions have of late been prepared and largely sold under the name of "Havana brown," "sap brown," and "condensed sauce." All these preparations are now openly advertised, and directions given for using them. None of these infusions contain anything particularly injurious, most of them consisting of brown vegetable dyes. A German paper states that if a piece of white blotting-paper, saturated with diluted salt ammonia, is passed a few times lightly over the cigar, the coloring matter, if any has been used, will come off on it, whereas the natural brown of the tobacco leaf will remain.

WHILE the Grand Duke Nicholas was reviewing the prisoners after the taking of Plevna, his eye caught the magnificent Arab horse of a Turkish officer. He afterward sent one of his Adjutants to the latter to ask if he would sell it, orders having been given that the captured officers should retain their horses. The Turk replied that it was no longer in his possession, for immediately after the animal had been remarked by the Grand Duke a Roumanian officer had come to him and ordered him to give it up. He had refused and demanded the written command of the Prince. The officer then drew his revolver, and, threatening to shoot him, forced him to comply with his demand. Fortunately for the Turkish officer, the Roumanian had a squint, and by means of this physical peculiarity was soon discovered, and found to be none other than a staff officer attached to Gen. Skobeleff. He had forthwith to surrender his ill-gotten spoil, was severely reprimanded, and has been obliged to leave headquarters owing to the odium into which he has fallen.

Evils of the Cramping System.

The psychological mischief done by excessive cramming both in some schools and at home is sufficiently serious to show that the reckless course pursued in many instances ought to be loudly protested against. As we write, four cases come to our knowledge of girls seriously injured by this folly and unintentional wickedness. In one, the brain is utterly unable to bear the burden put upon it, and the pupil is removed from school in a highly excitable state; in another, epileptic fits have followed the host of subjects pressed upon the scholar; in the third, the symptoms of brain fog have become so obvious that the amount of schooling has been greatly reduced; and in a fourth fits have been induced and complete prostration of brain has followed. These cases are merely illustrations of a class, coming to hand in one day, familiar to most physicians. The enormous number of subjects which are forced into the curriculum of some schools and are required by some professional examinations confuse and distract the mind, and by lowering its healthy tone often unfit it for the world. While insanity may not directly result from this stuffing, and very likely will not, exciting causes of mental disorder occurring in later life may upset a brain which, had it been subjected to more moderate pressure, would have escaped unscathed. Training in its highest sense is forgotten in the multiplicity of subjects, originality is stunted, and individual thirst of knowledge overlaid by a crowd of novel theories based upon yet unproved statements.—*Macmillan's Magazine.*

THE INDIAN POET-KING.

He Who Built a Magnificent Tower for the Worship of the Unknown God.

(From the San Francisco Bulletin.)

CITY OF MEXICO, January 2.—I am going to tell you of a trip to the mountain of Tezoosingo, famous in Aztec days as being the pleasure garden and retreat of the Indian poet-king, Nezahuacoyotl. From Texcoco the trip is wildly picturesque and grandly beautiful. The curiously constructed bath of Nezahuacoyotl is cut from a solid block of granite overhanging the brow of the hill. The rock has a smooth surface several yards square, and dropping from its center is a circular basin some three or four feet deep and a dozen or more in circumference. Out of one side is cut a seat for the accommodation of the bather, while, rising from the surface a little back is another having a perfect chair form, with a rest on one side for the arm. Protecting the outer side of this is a wall—a part of the same rock—into which seats have been cut, and various little niches in the form of miniature steps, which might have been used by the old Indian monarch as receptacles for his toilet paraphernalia.

Following along the still well-preserved path, we came to a chamber cut into the side of the hills, now unroofed and in ruins, the floor being strewn with debris. At the end of this vaulted chamber was a raised platform a foot in height and several feet square, hewn from solid rock, and on either corner, back of this, were niches chiseled out, with fragments of cement still clinging to their sides. We have since learned that between these, above the platform, there still remained at the beginning of the present century a large calendar stone, which was later destroyed by the neighboring Indians in search of treasure. This curious work must have cost its builders a vast deal of labor.

Separating himself from the cares of his kingdom, Nezahuacoyotl came for retirement to this beautiful mountain, and here, four times every day for forty days, on bended knees, he offered prayer and incense to "the all-powerful God, hidden and unknown."

It is said that in answer to these earnest petitions a vision appeared to one of his servants in attendance, directing him to go at once to his master, with the comforting assurance that the unseen God had been pleased to accept his prayers and offerings, and would avenge him by the hands of his son, Axoquatzin, a boy of only 17 years. The king could not accept the supernatural vision, which was, however, fulfilled.

Nezahuacoyotl, upon hearing of the fulfillment of what he had considered a false prophecy, retired in humiliation to the garden of his place, and, kneeling on the ground, gave thanks to the unknown God for his signal benefits, promising to build a temple to his house, to abstain from idolatrous worship and human sacrifices, and to alone acknowledge the supremacy of the unknown God. In compliance with this vow, he built a tower nine stories high, the interior of which he garnished with gold and precious stones, and the exterior he covered with black cement, embellished with stars. The workmanship was of the most expensive order. In this superb tower were stationed men, whose duty it was, at certain hours of the day, to strike upon plates of fine metal, at the sound of which the monarch fell upon his knees in prayer.

The Woman Walker.

Miss Von Hillern, the young woman who has accomplished so many remarkable walking feats, is pleasantly described by a writer in the *Cincinnati Commercial*: "As she races around the track, she looks like a fish darting through the water. She is as straight as an arrow, and her shoulders are very broad and square for a woman's. Her walking is not in the least like that of ordinary persons. It is like that of an Indian on a long journey. She seems to propel herself along with her arms and shoulders as much as with her feet. The peculiar swing of her elbows and shoulders reminds one continually of the motion of a bird's wings. Her toes do not turn out, as civilized people's are supposed to. They go straight ahead, and the left foot perhaps points slightly inward." She is an excellent business woman, has invested her money in Boston, and takes shrewd care of it. She is a native of Freiberg, in Baden, and is a zealous and pious Roman Catholic. One good result of her exhibitions is said to be the inspiring of ladies to pedestrian exercise. A ladies' walking club has just been formed in Washington, its members pledging themselves to eat an oatmeal breakfast, put on a loose, light Bloomer walking-dress and take a long walk in the country at least three times a week.

Nor a mile of railway was built last year in Georgia, Mississippi or Arkansas.